BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE
Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) www.bwna.us January • February 2011

Coyotes in our Neighborhood

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director Audubon Society of Portland

Coyotes have lived in Northeast Portland's Alameda Neighborhood for years. Audubon periodically receives reports from neighbors who have observed a coyote hunting mice at dawn in Wilshire Park or stealthily slinking down a neighborhood street as night approaches. It is no surprise that coyotes are there — coyotes, an animal that Navajo sheepherders once referred to as "God's Dog," have established themselves in neighborhoods across Portland just as they have established themselves in cities across North America. Although they are often observed alone, coyotes are pack animals and a pack will establish a territory over an area that can cover several kilometers. Normally they are shy and secretive, and neighbors often do not even realize that they are around.



However, in November something changed in Alameda. After years of quiet existence, the neighborhood coyotes suddenly became much more visible. They were observed walking down the street in broad daylight, coming up on porches, sunning themselves in driveways. Audubon's phones were ringing off the hook. I went out to Alameda early on a warm sunny November Sunday morning to see if I could catch a glimpse. My wife asked me as I set out, "Do you really think you will find them on a sunny morning with people out on the street?" The answer came quickly enough. I had no sooner parked my VW bus when a coyote ambled out of Wilshire Park right in front of me, hooked a quick right turn, and strolled down the middle of the street. I followed the healthy-looking coyote for the next 90 minutes as it made a series of loops around a 50-block radius. He moved just far enough to one side of the street or the other and occasionally into a yard to avoid people out enjoying the morning, but stayed continuously on course and in sight. He had been making this circuit for a while; coyote scat littered the sidewalks, revealing that their primary diet as expected is small rodents. It was both amazing and disturbing to observe.

What changed to cause these coyotes to suddenly change their behavior and become so comfortable around humans? In cases across the country where coyotes have become highly visible around humans, the story is the same: They have lost their instinctual fear because of human food handouts. Due to both intentional feeding as well as opportunistic accessing of outdoor pet dishes and other unnatural food sources such as garbage cans and compost bins, they have come to associate food with people. Under normal circumstances, neighborhood coyotes present an exceedingly low threat to humans, but when they lose their instinctual fear, conflicts can occur. Every neighbor in Alameda seemed to have a coyote story to tell, but the ones that were most troubling were about deliberate feeding — including one rumor that a neighbor was putting out dead chickens for the coyotes.

Residents of the Alameda Neighborhood are working with Portland Audubon and wildlife agencies to enact a program to haze the coyotes and reestablish instinctual fear of humans in the local coyote population. When humans do not react to a coyote wandering by, it reinforces the coyote's perception that it has nothing to fear. By shouting and making other noise, people can sometimes restore a coyote's natural behaviors. Alameda residents are also embarking on an educational outreach campaign to ensure that human behaviors that may have led to this habituation are eliminated. The hope is that by going this route, the human and wild residents of Alameda can return to peaceful coexistence. However, if the coyotes continue to display habituated behaviors, they will be removed. Habituated coyotes are not relocated; they are euthanized.

There will likely always be coyotes in the Alameda Neighborhood. New coyotes quickly replace coyotes that have been removed. The only real question is whether human residents will make changes that minimize conflicts with these wild dogs. Kudos to the Alameda residents for responding to their wild neighbors with a balance of caution, appreciation, and most importantly, proactive efforts to address potential conflicts.

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President's Message

New Day Dawning

By Al Ellis

Change is inevitable in most areas of life--no more so than with nonprofit organizations, which depend on volunteers for their very survival. One never knows when veteran volunteers will find it necessary to leave the organization for "personal reasons"--just as one never knows when new volunteers will make the decision to serve. But there's something about the transition from the old year to the new that tips the balance for a lot of people. Priorities and time commitments are reexamined, with volunteerism often hanging in the balance.

Such was the situation for Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) last year between December and April, when six Board members resigned--including two officers (Secretary and Treasurer)--each citing job-related, family-related, and individual-interest-related reasons for their respective decisions. Additionally, we had one turnover after another in the position of BWNA Representative to the Central Northeast Neighbors Board (the umbrella organization that sets policy and assists with funding for eight different N.E. neighborhood associations). Suffice it to say, things seemed bleak at that point.

But as so often happens in life, just when everything appears to be going south, the pendulum abruptly changes direction--which brings to mind a classic song lyric from Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young: "...And you know, the darkest hour is always just before the dawn..." Thankfully, that adage held true for BWNA last April when four neighbors volunteered to fill vacant Board positions and three incumbent Board members did the same for the Secretary, Treasurer, and CNN Representative positions. Was it luck, fate, Beaumont-Wilshire (BW) "neighborhood spirit"....who knows? All that could be said for certain was that the bullet had been dodged for the time being—but for how long?

Answer: The pendulum has already swung. With two Board vacancies still remaining to be filled from last year, there is now a third, and it's none other than our multi-talented Treasurer/Newsletter Editor Dan Johnson! A double whammy, it would appear, and pretty "dark" news for the neighborhood. But there's a glimmer of the "dawn" in sight, I'm happy to report. While Dan's increased time demands in his business are forcing him to resign from the Board, and thus from the Treasurer's position, he believes it may still work out for him to continue on as Newsletter Editor, providing he gets some additional volunteer help.

Interested? I hope so. The Newsletter is not only one of the finest of its kind in the city, but one of BWNA's primary outside revenue sources (from ad sales), and most importantly, BWNA's most effective communication link with community residents. Volunteering to assist Dan and his ace publisher/graphic designer Debbie Schwing would be providing a huge service to our neighborhood, and you'd be walking into a well-organized system with expert direction. That was the pitch I made to those in attendance at December's "Winter Holiday" General Meeting regarding the search for an "Assistant Editor"--but, frankly, I didn't think much would come of it that night, figuring people would need some time to think it over. Then, out of the blue, BW resident Ethan Derner raised his hand and said simply, "I'll do it."

We're looking for neighbors to follow Ethan's example and step up to the BWNA plate. Board members are needed, a Treasurer is needed, and most immediately, more volunteers are needed to help Dan and his Newsletter staff. It's a golden opportunity for you to become actively involved in the neighborhood association and give something back to our community.

Perhaps the "dawn" is once again just around the corner..

Join the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association Board and make a difference

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Email: cnnoutreach@teleport.com
Url: http://www.cnncoalition.org



Resolutions. Really?

Letter from the Editor

By Dan Johnson

Resolutions. Really? Resolutions are usually associated with the New Year as a commitment to a project or the reforming of a habit. Often, it is s a lifestyle change that attempts to rid the wrong and accomplish the right. Examples include getting in shape, donating to the poor, being more assertive, or becoming more environmentally responsible. But why do we wait until the New Year to make these changes?

During the Christian fasting period of Lent, the believer is asked to reflect through prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self-denial. During Judaism's New Year, Rosh Hashanah, through the High Holidays and culminating in Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), one is to reflect upon one's wrongdoings over the year and both seek and offer forgiveness. The concept, regardless of creed, is to reflect upon self-improvement annually. Thus, with our lives closely entwined to a calendar, we have created an identifiable annual event which we call New Year. This is the perfect opportunity for most people to reflect on their lives, embrace change and create resolutions.

For the 12% of you who actually achieve your New Year's resolutions, I applaud you. For the rest of us, let's get real. If you haven't started to eat less and exercise more, you probably aren't going to lose weight. Maybe this year we should resolve not to set resolutions and attempt instead to change 10% of our behavior rather than 100%? I encourage you just to start. Start saving money. Start exercising. Start spending more time with your family, and most importantly, stop making excuses. The Beaumont-Wilshire Community needs you and you need the community, so consider serving on the board or help to create and distribute this newsletter. Together, we can make a difference.

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Save the Date

Beaumont-Wilshire artists show at Blackfish Gallery. Located at 420 NW 9th. The opening is January 6th (First Thursday) from 6:00PM- 9:00PM.



NEIGHBORHOOD VIDEOS
www.bwna.us

BWNA Calendar

Sunday, January 2nd •12:30PM - 4:30PM
Christmas Tree Recycling Fundraiser, Vernon School
(See page nine)

Monday, January 3rd • 7:00PM
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance
(See page ten)

Thursday, January 6th • 6:00PM- 9:00PM
Beaumont-Wilshire Artists Show
Blackfish Gallery
(See page three)

Saturday, January 8th •10:30AM - 4:30PM
Christmas Tree Recycling Fundraiser, Vernon School
(See page nine)

Friday, January 14th • 5:00PM - 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

Saturday, January 15th • 9:00AM - Noon
Prune Like a Pro Workshop
(See page four)

Friday, January 28th
Deadline for ads and articles
for the March -April 2011 newsletter

Monday, February 7th • 7:00PM
BWNA Community Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
NE Skidmore Entrance
(See page ten)

Friday, February 11th • 5:00PM - 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

Saturday, February 19th • 9:00AM - Noon
Prune Like a Pro Workshop
(See page four)

Friday, March 11th • 5:00PM - 9:00PM
Second Friday on Fremont
(See page twelve)

Monday, March 14th • 7:00PM
BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Saturday, March 19th
Friends of Trees Tree Planting
(See page twelve)

BWNA's calendar is on the web!
Go to www.bwna.us and select BWNA Calendar

Prune Like a Pro: Fruit Trees

Portland Parks & Recreation offers free workshops this winter

By Karl Dawson

Do you have fruit trees? Is pruning them a random act of violence? Portland Parks & Recreation is offering free workshops on pruning to increase fruit production, train young trees, and restore neglected trees. The workshops take place at the Columbia Children's Arboretum which was planted by school kids in the 1970's.

Classes will start with a half-hour of basic fruit tree instruction, followed by hands-on pruning supervised by Portland Parks & Recreation horticulturists. Bring pruning tools and gloves if you have them (they will also be provided).



Classes are free but registration is required.

Columbia Children's Arboretum
10040 NE 6th Drive (just east of Jubitz)
www.tinyurl.com/childrensarboretum
9:00AM-noon
Saturday, January 15
Saturday, February 19

Registration & Information:
Karl Dawson, Urban Forestry Outreach Specialist at the Portland Parks & Recreation City Nature.
Call 503.823.PLAY or 503.823.1650 or email karl.dawson@portlandoregon.gov

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Cold Weather Preparation

By Lynn Schemmer-Valleau, Volunteer Coordinator, Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services

As we approach an expected cold winter, the Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services have prepared some basic information and resources to help prepare and guide everyone during inclement weather.

First, we have limited resources to assist clients during an extended cold weather spell. It is essential that we share information with clients about how to prepare for extended cold weather and work with neighbors and community organizations to help with keeping people warm and safe. Additionally, each Aging and Disability Services branch and district center has a plan for identifying and contacting high risk clients during inclement weather.

If the County is closed, Helpline/Gatekeeper/Adult Protective Services calls will be screened by Protocall (the afterhours call service) and triaged by an afterhours consultant. The Helpline Supervisor will identify callers with urgent needs and staff through our department emergency response. Additionally, the 211 website (http://www.211info.org/) will be updated daily with shelter and other cold weather information.

Clients who receive Meals on Wheels through Loaves and Fishes received two shelf stable meals in early October. These included instructions to "not eat the meals unless/until a call from the local meal-site advises that the center(s) are closed and Loaves and Fishes is unable to deliver regular meals." Loaves and Fishes is currently in the process of identifying any "new starts" since October so they can ensure all Meals on Wheels clients have emergency meals on hand.

In addition, it is also important to have an emergency preparedness kit available. For more information, please visit http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html.

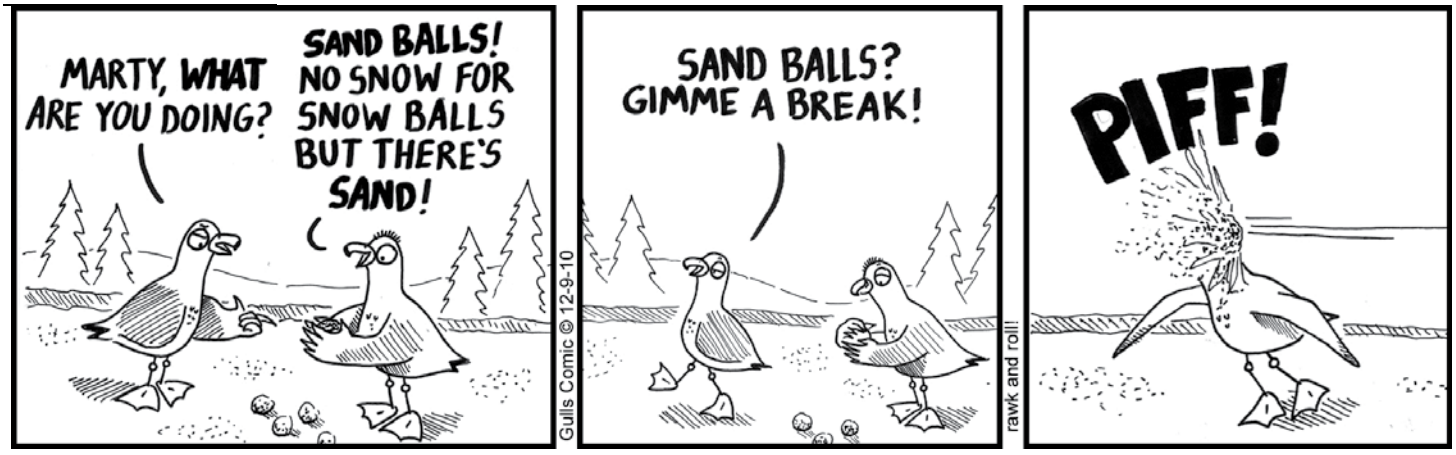
For more information, please contact the Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services at 503.988.3620 x29463

Don't forget...

BWNA Board Meeting
Monday, January 3rd, 7:00PM

BWNA Community Meeting
Monday, February 7th, 7:00PM

GULLS COMIC







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Real Estate News from Beaumont-Wilshire & Beyond

Market Activity

By Kathy Mollere

October Residential Highlights

Sales activity in Portland has shown some signs of slowing. The number of homes sold last month dropped by 35.7% when comparing October 2010 to October 2009. Pending sales also decreased by 21.5% and new listings dropped by 9.4%. In comparison to the previous month of September 2010, closed sales decreased by 7.7%, while pending sales grew by 3% and new listings fell by 12.1% for that same time period. There are currently 13,805 active residential listings in Portland and at the current pace of sales it would take approximately 10.7 months for the average home to sale.

Sales Prices

The average price for a home in the Portland Metro area is 2.4% less then it was in October 2009. Current listings are around $276,800. While comparing the average sales price on a month-to-month basis, prices have dropped but only by 1.1%. The median sales price also decreased 2.7% from September 2010 and showed an annual decrease of 4.7%.

Year-to-Date

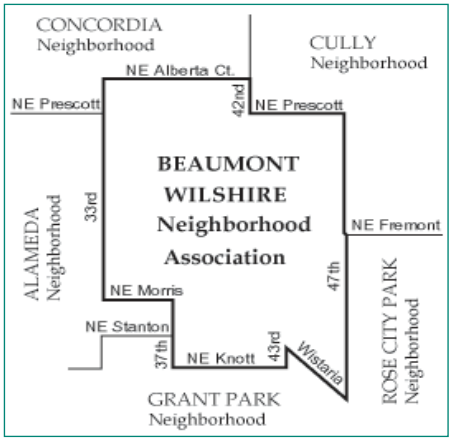
Some good news appears while looking at January 2010 thru October 2010 and comparing it with the same time frame in 2009. Closed sales actually increased by 3.7%. The number of pending sales went down by 3.4%, but the number of new listings went up by 4%.

If you would like more information about what sold on your block, find out instantly at: www.beaumontwilshirehomevalues.com. For additional information contact:

Kathy Mollere ABR, GRI
Super Realty Group
4605 NE Fremont St. #202
Kathy@superrealtygroup.com
or call 503.224.7873

All residents, property owners, government agencies, business licensees, and non-profit organizations located within the boundaries of the Beaumont -Wilshire Neighborhood Association may consider themselves members of BWNA. Membership is free. Members are welcome to attend any BWNA business meeting.

Beaumont-Wilshire Boundaries





INVENTORY IN MONTHS			
	2008	2009	2010
January	12.8	19.2	12.6
February	10.4	16.6	12.9
March	9.1	12	7.8
April	10.3	11	7.3
May	9.2	10.2	7
June	9.5	8.2	7.3
July	10	7.3	10.8
August	9.9	7.8	11
September	10.4	7.6	10.5
October	11.1	6.5	10.7
November	15	7.1	
December	14.1	7.7	

CURRENT LISTINGS IN BEAUMONT-WILSHIRE	
Current Active Listings	34
Current Pending Listings	10
Sold in the Last Month	10
Short Sale Listings	3
Bank Owned Listings	1

continued from page one

Living with Coyotes

- Do NOT provide any food for coyotes: Feed pets indoors, cover garbage and compost tightly, pick up dropped fruit in yards.
- Do NOT approach or follow a coyote: If you see one, make it feel unwelcome by shouting or making other loud noises (rocks rattled in a tin can work well).
- Do NOT run from coyotes: Avoid coyotes by walking calmly away.
- Teach children to respect wildlife from a distance.
- Keep house pets indoors or under close supervision outdoors (cats are prey for coyotes and significant predators of wild birds, so keeping them in is win-win).



Have you seen a coyote in your neighborhood? Please report sightings to Bob Sallinger at: bsallinger@ audubonportland.org.

Include date, time, location (be specific as possible), and any behaviors observed.

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Carla Welker, LCSW
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Beaumont-Wilshire Artists Show at Blackfish Gallery

By Helen Koba

A number of Beaumont-Wilshire artists will be in a group show at Blackfish Gallery during the month of January 2011. The gallery is located at 420 NW 9th and is open Tuesday-Saturday 11:00AM - 5:00PM. The opening is January 6th (First Thursday) from 6:00PM-9:00PM.

For more information about the art group itself go to: http://www.bwna.us/artspace/index.html

Participating are:
Janet Amundson
Zdena Antonia
Mario Caoile
Margaret Davis
Brita Gould
Sarah Lajoie
Gay Mitchell
Carol Sands
Cyndi Slingsby
Elissa Tree


Carol Sands


Sarah Lajoie


Brita Gould


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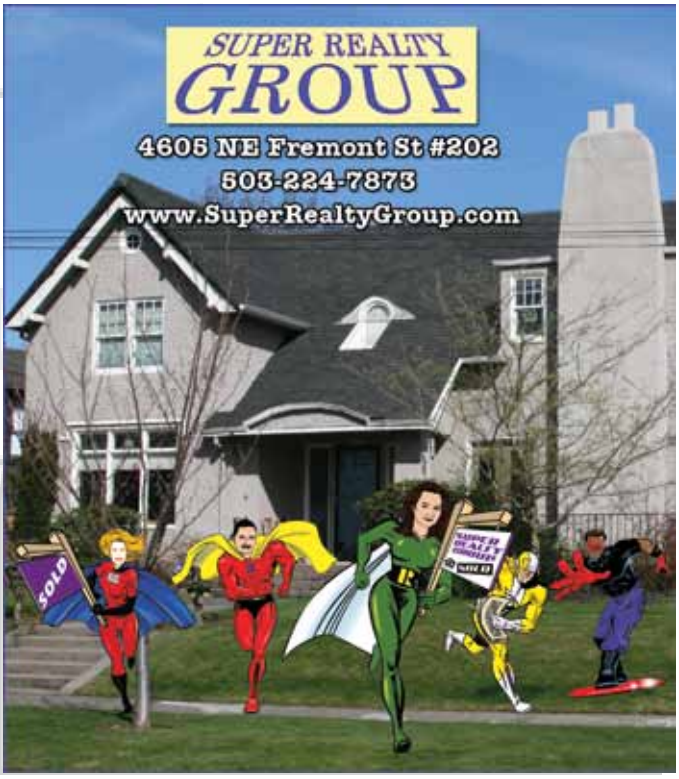
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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



Join the Neighborhood Tree Planting!

By Eileen Stark, Second Nature Garden Design

Saturday, March 19 is the date for the next tree planting in Beaumont-Wilshire. In partnership with Friends of Trees, the neighborhood has teamed up with Cully and Roseway to plant trees in yards and parking strips that create long-lasting benefits enjoyed by everyone.

Did you know that trees remove pollutants from the air? An average, mature tree can absorb 10 pounds of pollutants, mitigate 330 pounds of carbon dioxide and create 260 pounds of oxygen each year (the average person consumes nearly 400 pounds), leading to various health benefits such as reduced asthma rates.

A mature evergreen tree can intercept over 4,000 gallons of rainwater each year (a deciduous captures up to 760 gallons), which helps keep rivers cleaner and reduces stormwater fees. Trees also raise property values and appreciate in value each year and studies show they may also reduce human aggression, violence and crime. Wildlife benefit immensely, as well.

Portland's tree canopy is much smaller than it could be and if your parking strip is narrow and/or under high voltage power wires, you will be limited to choosing fairly small trees. If you have the space, consider planting a large (preferably native) tree in your yard to help increase the city's tree canopy. Large-crowned trees offer the most benefits, including the reduction of heat radiation and energy use if placed strategically. In general, deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns should be placed near the south side of a house (10-30 feet sway) and trees with lower crowns on the west side. Conifers are crucial for wildlife, but need plenty of air circulation for healthy growth and a large enough space to show their natural shape. Most conifers are happiest in sunny spots with well-drained soil, but some, such as hemlocks and Western red cedar, do very well in partial shade. And although slow-growing trees may take longer to provide shade benefits, they generally live longer and are less prone to failure than fast-growing trees.

FRIENDS of TREES

A nice selection of eight to twelve-foot tall trees is now being offered to homeowners for yards and parking strips for only $35. This low price includes a parking strip inspection by the city to ensure appropriate trees are chosen, hole digging, delivery, planting assistance, stakes, labels, mulch, follow-up monitoring and information on proper tree care techniques. To sign up to receive a tree or for more information, please visit www.friendsoftrees.org. Supplies are limited, so sign up soon!

Volunteers will be needed—to help, please contact: beaumont-wilshire@plantitportland or Seth at 503.896.9390 or Eileen at 503.467.8545.



You can help! Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association

Make your 2011 New Year's Resolution a commitment to help out in your neighborhood

Delivery carriers wanted • 4-5 block radius • 20-30 minute commitment • Deliver every other month

Contact Marsha Mahon at 503.284.1859 or mahonmurrell@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Recycling

Fundraiser for Vernon PTA

We'll be on the west side of Vernon School, on NE 20th Ave. Please remove ALL decorations, tinsel, etc before bringing your tree down. All trees will be taken to Wood Waste Management, where they will mulch the trees. All proceeds will go to the Vernon PTA, to help provide free events to our families and community. Suggested donation: $10 if you drop your tree off at the school, $20 if we come pick it up from you.

Please contact Kris Woolen at 503.422.7866 or kcbw@comcast.net or Megan Lynch at 503.929.5691 or heya.megan@gmail.com if you have any questions, or would like to help. Pass this info along to your friends and neighbors, too!

Sunday, January 2, 12:30PM - 4:30PM

Saturday, January 8, 10:30AM - 4:30PM

Papa Murphy's

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January and February Specials

January

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February

Large Heart Shaped Pepperoni

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Yes, just $7.00! February 1st-14th only

"Special Circumstances" Result in 1st-Monday Reschedulings of Meetings

By Al Ellis

Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA) Bylaws require that a Board Meeting be held each odd-numbered month and that a General Meeting be held on each even-numbered month, except for August, when the National Night Out Wilshire Park Picnic takes precedence. But no specific day of the week or time is specified: "The meetings shall be convened at a time and day decided upon by the majority vote of the Board..." The longstanding BWNA tradition has been to hold meetings on the second Monday of the month, and Board members agree that consistency is the best policy. However, there's a potential Catch-22: In order to conduct business, the Bylaws require a quorum (minimum of 12 at a General Meeting, simple majority at a Board Meeting), and if the second Monday of the month just happens to fall on an evening when most people choose not to attend due to a holiday or other special event conflict, then what we're left with is "consistency for the sake of consistency"--and a meeting that ends up being postponed anyway. Well, for the first time that any veteran Board member can remember, such a circumstance has presented itself--not just once, but twice in a row!

The second Monday of January--the 10th--would normally be when our Board Meeting is held. But on that same evening, an unprecedented event takes place for Oregonians: U. of O. plays Auburn for the National Championship! Accordingly, the Board, anticipating the lack of a quorum, has rescheduled its meeting for the first Monday in January--the 3rd. Likewise, the February General Meeting has been rescheduled to the first Monday in February--the 7th--because the second Monday of the month is Valentine's Day! So, in summary: Board Meeting is switched to January 3rd; General Meeting to February 7th. (These changes have been posted online on both the BWNA and Central Northeast Neighbors calendars).

Board meetings are open to the public, and we welcome your participation. The agenda for the January 3rd Board meeting will include preparation for the February General Meeting vote on proposed Bylaws revisions (details below), plans for this summer's "Movies in the Park" event in Wilshire Park, and consideration of a grant proposal by Board member Colin O'Neill to enhance neighborhood communication via the BWNA Web site.

The agenda for the February 7th General Meeting will include a presentation on in-home energy-saving tips by Donald Shaw of Home Energy Solutions (postponed from December's General Meeting due to Don coming down with a bad cold), a report from BWNA PPS Boundary Committee Representative Tracy Johnson on potential changes affecting Beaumont M.S., Alameda Elementary, and Sabin (K-8), a review of the incidence of crime in our neighborhood by local officers, planning for April's Taste of Beaumont/BWNA Elections General Meeting, and a discussion and vote on proposed Bylaws revisions.

The entire text of the current Bylaws along with proposed revisions can be accessed on the Association's Web site www.bwna.us. (Click on "About" at the top of the home page, then on "Bylaws of BWNA") Here's an overview of the main changes under consideration:

1.) Change the way decisions are made: At present, there's no differentiation in the bylaws regarding voting on a proposal at a General or Special Meeting and voting on a proposal at a Board Meeting. The only stated requirement for passage is a majority vote of those in attendance, providing there's a quorum (minimum of 12 residents 18 or older at a General Meeting and a majority of the Directors present at a Board meeting).

However, the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (which oversees all neighborhood associations in the city) provides the following guideline for Boards of Directors: "...The Board has the responsibility of acting in the best interest of the neighborhood but is not specifically bound to act according to the desire of the majority of members attending a particular meeting." The proposed revision would add this language to the Bylaws and make votes taken at a General Meeting advisory, subject to final approval by the Board.

Commentary: Proponents point out that Board members are elected by the neighborhood to represent and make decisions for the neighborhood as a whole, not simply to rubber stamp proposals approved by residents who choose to attend a particular General or Special Meeting. Opponents counter that while representative democracy is a worthy goal for BWNA, the reality is much different, with Board members elected to their positions by a very small percentage of neighborhood residents; moreover, the prospect of effecting change through voting at General Meetings serves to motivate residents to become more engaged.

2.) Elimination of term limits: At present, Board members are limited to three consecutive two-year terms.

The proposed revision would remove this restriction from the Bylaws, thus affording Board members the opportunity to be reelected to their positions every two years for as long as they are willing to serve.

Commentary: Proponents maintain that the Board has had problems attracting candidates and can't afford to lose otherwise qualified Board members to term limits; moreover, membership (i.e., residents attending a General Meeting) can at any time vote to remove a board member with a two-thirds vote. Opponents suggest that rather than consolidating power and positions at the Board level, there should be greater emphasis placed on motivating neighbors to actively participate in BWNA; moreover, the Association is "re-energized" with each new addition to the Board.

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Beaumont Business Association (BBA) Update

By Rebecca Lehman, BBA President

I hope you're all enjoying our crisp, winter weather! As you know the Beaumont Business Association (BBA) has spent most of this year rebuilding itself to over 56 members currently. We enjoyed a very successful Fremont Festival in August and our ambition to build name recognition for "2nd Fridays on Fremont" is working out just fine. Our efforts have been recognized by both the business community and the neighborhood and our desire is to keep the momentum going into 2011! Our focus is two-fold; 1) To create a positive response from the businesses in our area to help create a vital and thriving business area; and 2) to bring people to our businesses by creating an atmosphere where people want to shop, dine and play.

With that, the BBA has just been awarded a $3,000 grant from the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations. The grant application was contingent on specific plans and must be accompanied with matching funds. Together, with your input we have come up with two plans for the winter of 2010 and we are excited about both of them!

The first was the Fremont Festival of Lights where we lit 65-75 trees along NE Fremont from 40th to 50th. The tree lighting ceremony, held on Friday, December 10th was a hit.

Next, is to place 30 (23"x36") flag pole banners on the street poles on NE Fremont from 40th to 50th. These flags will welcome visitors to our business district and add an appeal to remind visitors to stop and enjoy our street. Each flag will be designed to enhance our village main street and welcome visitors passing through. We are currently working with a designer to come up with several ideas for our banner pole flags on Fremont. Have an idea you'd like to see? Get involved on our banner committee! We hope to have three designs to choose from in the next few months and plan to hoist the banners on the poles as soon as we can. To join our banner committee please contact Deb Field at Paper Jam Press at 503.238.5777 or email her at deborah@takenoticecards.com.

For more information about the BBA and how you can help make the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood even more exciting, please contact Rebecca Lehman at 949.395.3305 or rebeccalehman90@gmail.com.

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3.) Housekeeping measures: These include everything from corrected punctuation and phrasing to overlooked or misplaced duties of officers and committees. (Go to the BWNA Web site for specifics.) There was no opposition voiced by Board members to any of these proposed revisions. Besides discussing and voting on the Bylaws revisions, issues facing the neighborhood will be addressed by a local police officer and by BWNA committees chairs, with the last part of the meeting devoted to suggestions from the audience on which neighborhood enhancement projects and activities to pursue in 2011.

Your ideas, suggestions, and votes at BWNA meetings help shape the direction of our neighborhood, and we hope to see you in attendance. Remember to mark the rescheduled dates (Board Meeting on Jan. 3rd, General Meeting on Feb. 7th) on your calendars. Meetings are held at Bethany Lutheran Church, corner of 37th and Skidmore--just across from Wilshire Park--with a 7:00 PM starting time.

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